

## FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS

Big Fire Loss in Madisonville Tuesday Night Gives the Town Terrors.

### THREAT OF GREAT DESTRUCTION.

Wind Blew a Gale, but in the Right Direction, and Town Was Saved.

### EVANSVILLE FIREMEN CAME OVER

A Wind From the West Would Have Guttled the Business Portion.

Madisonville narrowly escaped destruction by fire early Tuesday night during a high wind, the direction and velocity of which fortunately carried the flames and the scattering sparks away from the business portion.

The fire was first seen to appear in the old tobacco factory just east of the old Exchange hotel on Cross Main street west of the railroad. This old frame fire trap was surrounded by a number of smaller frame houses and the fire spread very rapidly licking up everything in its track with startling energy.

The heavens, overcast with clouds, lighted up with a magnificent torch of distress for miles around and signalled to thousands of people in neighboring towns and country the impending disaster. Many persons went from Earllington and the other towns to the distressed county seat and the highways were alive with flying vehicles, all bearing sympathetic and willing men, ready to lend a hand if the opportunity presented.

The local railroad officials, Master of Trains Devney and Chief Dispatcher Sheridan ran the switch engine hurriedly over to Madisonville, going themselves to see the situation and render any assistance possible.

A call was made on the Evansville fire department, which met with a ready response and the L. & N. officials hurried the volunteer detachment over to Madisonville by special train. The firemen reached Madisonville sometime after the fire had spent itself, but the wind having changed, the firemen did valuable service in extinguishing the smoldering debris.

The fire was confined to the block west of the main line of the L. & N. railroad and north of Cross Main street. The brick block of business houses escaped, except that the building of Oldham's grocery was considerably damaged and his stock damaged by being removed from the threatened building. There are seven business houses in this brick block, including the livery stable of W. A. Nisbet.

The wind blew directly from the south with great force, the flames were swept swiftly through the frame houses abutting on the west of Oldham's grocery and borne on by before the latter building could get beyond control.

Besides the brick business houses everything else in that block was burned except the big frame Tabernacle and a cottage just south of the Tabernacle fronting on Seminary street.

The night of the fire the loss was variously estimated at from \$75,000 to \$150,000, but investi-

gation shows that it is not so great as at first supposed. Perhaps \$50,000 will cover the fire loss, to which may be added the various small damage to household goods moved out for fear many dwellings might burn. The insurance carried amounted to \$26,900 on the property destroyed and damaged in the burned block.

The losses and values and insurance carried are, as nearly as can be ascertained, as follows:

Ohesley Williams, old stemmery and store buildings, loss \$2,500; insurance \$600.

H. G. Coleman, meat market, loss \$500; insurance \$200.

Wash Gower, meat market, loss \$600; no insurance.

A. R. Blanks, tobacco in Williams' stemmery, loss \$2,500; insurance \$2,000.

Bink & Lancaster, tobacco in Williams' stemmery, loss \$5,000; insurance \$3,500.

S. H. Holloman & Son, stemmery and stock of tobacco, loss \$25,000; insurance \$18,000.

James Pemberton, Exchange Hotel, loss \$2,000; insurance \$1,000.

James Pemberton, brick residence, occupied by Mrs. France Nisbet, loss \$1,800; insurance \$1,000.

James Pemberton, blacksmith shop and brick store house, loss \$300; no insurance.

James Pemberton, livery stable building, occupied by Barnhill, loss \$600; no insurance.

W. J. Barnhill, small loss on hay, etc., in stable. Saved most of contents.

James Young, family residence and contents, loss \$2,000; insurance \$600.

James Young, wareroom, loss \$250; no insurance.

Mrs. Wash Smith, dwelling, loss \$1,200; no insurance.

W. A. Nisbet, corn crib and other outbuildings, loss \$600; no insurance.

Joel Oldham, damage to brick store house and removal damage on stock groceries, \$1,000; covered by insurance.

Will Ross (col.) removal damage, \$200; covered by insurance.

Two small frame houses, occupied by colored families, one owned by Alex Pritchett, loss \$500; no insurance.

Considerable other damage to household goods in many cases removed from dwellings in path of spark laden gale.

Madisonville citizens have lately been discussing municipal ownership of waterworks. The town has no fire protection nor water supply and it is thought this fire will help crystallize public sentiment in favor of establishing waterworks.

### To the Voters of Hopkins County.

For many months past I have been solicited by good men from all parts of Hopkins county to allow my name to go before the people as a candidate for the office of county court clerk.

I have given this matter thorough consideration, and after weighing the facts and conditions of the present situation in our county, I have come to the conclusion to announce myself as a candidate for said office, subject to the action of the voters of Hopkins county at the November election.

I shall present no further claims for anyone to vote for me

than the fact that I am unconditionally opposed to "ring politics," and believe in and shall endeavor to the utmost to put into practice the principles embodied in the proposition that public office is a public trust, and a public officer is a servant of the people and not a master in politics.

My life for forty-three years in Hopkins county is an open book. If after due consideration the people shall by their votes elect me to the clerkship of the county I pledge an impartial administration of its duties.

Asking a careful consideration of the voters of the county, I am, yours respectfully  
C. H. MURPHY.

### Sent First Train Order by Wire.

The first station agent of the Chicago & Northwestern Railway to take advantage of the pension system recently adopted by that company is George F. Brigham, agent at Sharon, Wis. Mr. Brigham had been agent at that point continuously for thirty-five years on March 16, the date of his retirement. Mr. Brigham ranks among the oldest railroad men and telegraphers in the country, having learned telegraphy, and was employed by what is now the Western Union Telegraph Company, at Dunkirk, N. Y., in 1843. At that time Dunkirk was the terminus of the New York & Erie Railway, which was the only railroad between New York and the West. Shortly after that time he was telegraph operator in the office of the superintendent of the Erie road, where the system of moving trains by telegraph was first adopted, and he bears the distinction of being the first man to dispatch a train by telegraph, having sent the first "train order." The system adopted and the terms and expressions decided upon at that time are largely in use to-day. Mr. Brigham moved to Chicago in 1861, where he was manager of the United States Telegraph Company which was afterward absorbed by the Western Union. He moved with his family to Sharon, Wis., March 16, 1886, as agent for the Chicago & Northwestern.

His eldest son, Edmund D. Brigham, is general freight agent of the Chicago & Northwestern Railway Company. His second son, George F. Brigham, Jr., is general freight agent for the same line of railway, and his third son, H. H. Brigham, is traffic manager for the fish trust and the United States and Dominion Transportation Company at Chicago. From the day of his retirement he will receive one-third pay.

Mr. Brigham, in addition to his secular duties, has found time to take an active part in church works. On going to Sharon there was no church of his faith, and he started a Sunday-school in the railroad station for his own children, which later on, led to regular services. Since that time he has built a church and has been a regularly ordained minister of the Episcopal Church for nearly twenty-five years.

### Coal in Rhodesia.

Rhodesia, has, as yet, no producing coal mines of its own. The coal seams are there, however, and within a year or two some of them will have been opened up. The coal is situated principally in the Wankie and Tuli districts, and it is also known that there are carbonaceous deposits along the southern bank of the Zambesi and elsewhere. Until such times as the means of transport in Rhodesia are greatly improved Zambesi coal must remain outside the economic pale, and it is to the Wankie and Tuli districts—principally to the Wankie—that the country must look for its future supply of fuel.—Mines and Minerals, Scranton, Pa., for March.

### CLOVERPORT'S BIG FIRE.

Loss Estimated at Over Half a Million Dollars, and Three Hundred People Left Homeless.

### FORTY-FIVE HOMES DESTROYED.

Cloverport, Ky., March 19.—Early reports of the damage from fire to Cloverport were not exaggerated, on the other hand they failed to convey a proper idea of the terrible disaster that has befallen the town. There are no wrecks to mark where the houses stood. Where once were large business houses, nothing but heaps of ashes can be seen.

The fire originated in H. A. Oelze's two squares below the main business portion of the town at 11 o'clock Wednesday night, and before the flames could be checked six blocks on both sides the leading street had been swept. Forty-five residences, two hotels, two churches, two large tobacco factories, the Cloverport News' office, the Breckinridge Bank and several stores were destroyed. The post-office was also burned to the ground.

The local fire department is a volunteer bucket brigade, and was unable to cope with the terrific conflagration, fanned by a March gale, which raged without hindrance until it burned itself out. A fire engine arrived on a special train from Evansville, at 4 o'clock and did valuable work in extinguishing the burning debris.

The loss is estimated at \$500,000, and is covered by about half that amount of insurance. One hundred tents were sent by Adj. General Murray to the homeless, who until their arrival sought shelter with their more fortunate neighbors.

Many were left destitute, not even saving a change of clothing from the angry flames, but Kentucky citizens are responding liberally to the wail of the unfortunate, and it is thought that much of the loss will be repaired.

The only fortunate thing about the whole occurrence is that no lives were lost.

### Shaft Timberrig in Swelling Ground.

In Mines and Minerals, of Scranton, Pa., for March, a correspondent from Spring Valley, Ill., writes:

My method of securing a shaft that is sunk through ground that swells is to use round timber, oak or hard pine, 8 to 10 inches in diameter for cribbing. Leave 2 to 3 inches between sets by placing a 2 or 3 inch cleat on each corner of each set, and one behind the wall plates and guides. Spike the cleats fast to the sets; this keeps the sets a uniform distance apart and prevents sagging. The round backs of the timber will direct the ground as it swells towards the openings between the sets where the extra pressure due to its swelling will readily force it through and it will be carried to the shaft bottom either with the cage or by crumbling of itself. If a set of timber shows signs of strain at any time it can be relieved by going around the openings next to it with a pick and cutting out the dirt. By this method very little swelling of the ground will be noticed as it has perfect drainage from the first and no water is retained behind the timber. If the lagging behind slope timbers be treated the same way the timber will be greatly relieved of the pressure due to the expansion and swelling of the ground.

Subscribe for THE BEE, \$1 per year.

### ABSENCE OF PALMIST WORRIES HIM.

Arthur Miller, of Evansville, Ind., Claims to Have Been Robbed.

Evansville, Ind., March 17.—J. F. Shiro, alleged professor of palmistry and clairvoyance, has left here and his departure is mourned. Arthur Miller is out nearly \$600, and has asked police assistance.

Miller's wife has consumption, and he went to Shiro for a remedy. The latter, it is charged, induced Miller to bring his money along in bills, and pretended to secret them in a belt, which he had Miller wear. A shift of belts, it is said, was made, and in a few days Miller examined the belt and found he had been robbed.

### LIQUID AIR SCARES A TEXAS WAITER.

Steak Was Frozen Solid, and Spinach Looked Like a Piece of Malachite.

Mr. Roberts and Mr. Rugg, district managers of the liquid air lectures, are stopping at the Oriental. They entertained some Dallas friends at dinner yesterday afternoon and decided they would have a joke. Mr. Roberts armed himself with a bottle of the air, and when the negro waiter had served the juicy roast and gone back for some other sections of the order, Mr. Roberts covered it and the side dishes and the spinach with liquid air. When the darkey returned his attention was called to the adamantine nature of the steak, and he was asked what he meant by serving steak as hard as a rock and colder than ice.

"Fo' de Lawd, boss, dat steak wuz all right when I fotch it out. Shore it war. I never seed no such meat as dat befo'," exclaimed the astonished darkey.

The head waiter was called up and asked to explain, and that lordly individual was dumbfounded and speechless with astonishment.

The steak chipped off like a brick and the vegetables were like paper. The order was repeated, but the darkeys kept clear of that table the rest of the evening.—Dallas News.

### Ordinance.

The city council of the city of Earllington do ordain as follows:

That any person who shall within the limits of said city, bear, have or carry, any deadly weapon, openly, in such a manner and under such circumstances, as to excite terror or alarm, or to disturb the public repose, shall be guilty of a breach of the peace, and the person or persons so offending, and each of them shall be fined, not less than one cent, nor more than one hundred dollars, or imprisonment not less than five nor more than fifty days, or both so fined and imprisoned.

WILLIAM F. BURE, Mayor.  
PAUL M. MOORE, City Clerk.  
Earlington, Ky., March 13, 1901.

### Resolutions.

WHEREAS, It hath pleased our heavenly Father who doeth all things well, and unto whom we must all bow in humble submission to His divine will, to remove from our midst after long and patient suffering, our beloved sister, Mrs. Ava Wood;

RESOLVED, That the life of Sister Wood in her relation to her family and friends, and in cases of sickness and distress, furnishes a standard of right living, and an example of charitableness worthy to be emulated; that in her death, her family loses a kind and loving member, those who knew her a devoted friend, the community an upright Christian citizen, and the church a consistent member.

RESOLVED, That to her sorrowing husband and daughter, relatives and friends, we extend our heartfelt sympathy and condolence, and commend them to the Great Father of all, who comforteth and poureth balm on aching hearts. LIZZIE PRYTON, } Com.  
ETHEL EVANS, }

### BORDLEY NEWS.

Romantic Marriage of Miss Onan, of Sturgis, Just Come to Light.

### COL. GILES SUIT IS WITHDRAWN.

Tobacco Bringing Good Prices and Prospects Excellent.

Hon. Thos. Hammock, a prominent Republican of Union county, is seriously ill with pneumonia at his home in Sturgis.

Congressman H. D. Allen has returned from Washington to his home in Morganfield. He has completely recovered from a recent attack of the la grippe and looks hearty and strong.

A story of a marriage kept secret six months has just come to light at Sturgis. Last October Miss Fannie Onan, daughter of Judge Onan, went to Louisville on a visit and while there she met Mr. H. O. Barkley, an old sweetheart, whom she had not seen since the days of her first love. The old flame soon rekindled and the couple went quietly to Jeffersonville, Ind., and were married. It was decided not to announce the marriage until the groom could go to Sturgis and break the news to the bride's parents in person. Mr. Barkley being employed by a grocery establishment, and after his marriage the rush of the holiday trade was so great as to render his visit to his bride impossible for the time. It had just become possible for the belated groom to take his long anticipated vacation, and he left for Sturgis, arriving there Monday morning. A few hours later he called at the Onan residence and received parental blessings. The happy couple then left for their future home in Louisville.

"Uncle" Wm. Gregg, an old and highly respected citizen of near Sturgis, died last week after an illness of nearly two years.

Mrs. Dr. Bailey has returned from the bedside of her sick sister at Dawson Springs. When she left the patient was convalescent.

Chas. Gattin, our hustling stock buyer, is busily engaged buying stock.

Rev. Staley will probably be called as pastor of the Baptist church here.

After returning a large number of indictments, the grand jury adjourned Wednesday.

Hon. E. G. Thompson has been nominated by Webster county Republicans for State Senator. No better man could have been selected. Mr. Thompson is a refined and educated gentleman, and a prosperous farmer of Lisman. Should he be endorsed by other counties of his district he will make a vigorous canvass.

Mr. Collins Waller, formerly of Morganfield, has gone to St. Louis where he will engage in a new kind of insurance business. His superior business judgment and sagacity was noted by the managers of the National Policy Holder's Union. He was appointed managing agent for the state of Missouri, Southern Illinois, Kansas, Nebraska, Indian Territory, Oklahoma and New Mexico.

Mr. Mansel Vaughn and wife, of Clay, visited the latter's parents at Hearin, Saturday and Sunday.

The suit filed in Henderson some months ago by the late Col. Jordan A. Giles against W. W. Pierson & Co. has been withdrawn by Col. Jno. A. Miller, administrator and half brother of the deceased. The parties are all of Sturgis.

About a dozen farmers of this locality went to Henderson with loads of tobacco, last week. They came back well pleased with the prices and prospects.

There are thousands of acres of land in Union and Webster counties that are almost valueless on account of insufficient drainage. It is proposed to dig a drainage canal through the interior of their land to Caney Fork Creek if Webster county will aid in the work.

"Uncle" Wm. Wording, of Hearin, continues his lingering illness with little prospect of recovery.

When the ground dries, dirt and sand will be stirred for a while by the farmers of this country.

"U No Hoo," we were glad to hear from you, as you and "Rusticus" write such interesting letters.

C. W. C.